

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 174549

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 ERDA-05 EUR-12 /051 R

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P 142254Z JUL 76

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TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: TECH

SUBJECT: SOLAR ENERGY R&D COOPERATION WITH IRAN

REF: TEHRAN (A) 6946, (B) 6940, (C) 4973

1. ERDA AND DEPARTMENT IN AGREEMENT WITH VODJANI SUGGESTION (REF A) THAT APPROPRIATE WAY TO INITIATE CO-OPERATIVE ACTIVITIES IN SOLAR ENERGY R&D WOULD BE TO HAVE IRANIAN TEAM VISIT ERDA'S SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH CENTERS TO FAMILIARIZE ITSELF WITH NATURE AND SCOPE OF US PROGRAMS. ERDA IN PROCESS OF DRAFTING PROPOSED SCHEDULE. WOULD FIND ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON COMPOSITION AND INTERESTS OF IRANIAN TEAM USEFUL. WE WOULD EXPECT IRANIAN TEAM TO BE PREPARED TO FULLY DESCRIBE IRANIAN SOLAR PROGRAM.

2. ERDA CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF RETURN VISIT BY US

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EXPERTS THAT WOULD INCLUDE REVIEW OF IRANIAN INTERESTS AND

CAPABILITIES IN A NUMBER OF ADVANCED ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES.
WOULD IRANIANS BE RECEPTIVE TO SUCH PROPOSAL?

3. PARAGRAPH 2 REFTEL A DESCRIBES IRANIAN INTEREST IN
SOLAR TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION AS ENCOMPASSING SHARING OF
COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION AND PROCEEDS. EMBASSY MAY WISH
TO CLARIFY RESPECTIVE ROLES OF US GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY

IN DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF ADVANCED TECH-
NOLOGIES IN ORDER TO HAVE VISITING IRANIAN TEAM APPROPRIATE-
LY BRIEFED BEFORE DEPARTURE.

4. WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S DESCRIPTION OF IRANIAN-FRENCH
COOPERATION IN SOLAR TECHNOLOGY. DOES EMBASSY KNOW OF ANY
SIMILAR ARRANGEMENTS WITH OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES IN
NON-NUCLEAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION?

5. ENERGY COMMISSION OF CIEC NOW IN PROCESS OF EXPLORING
POSSIBLE COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES BETWEEN LESSER DEVELOPED
AND INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT OF
ALTERNATIVE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES. WITHOUT AT THIS TIME
SUGGESTING TO IRANIANS THAT WE ARE INTERESTED IN PROMOTING
MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN THIS FIELD,
COULD EMBASSY, IN LOW KEY MANNER, DETERMINE WHETHER IRANIANS
HAVE DEVELOPED ANY THOUGHTS ON MOVING MULTILATERALLY AS
WELL AS WELL AS BILATERALLY? KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, SOLAR POWER
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE174549
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: M.PROCHNIK:ACH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760272-0408
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760758/aaaabyvz.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 TEHRAN 6946
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUN 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOLAR ENERGY R&D COOPERATION WITH IRAN
TAGS: TECH, IR
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006